

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Oranienburg Airfield

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 17 May 1955

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REFERENCES

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PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. On various days during the period from 7 to 18 April 1955, 32 Il-28s were observed at Oranienburg airfield. The aircraft were parked in individual groups in the northeastern and eastern sections of the field. Li-2s seen at the installation included 1 on 7 April, 3 on 13 April, and 1 on 18 April. On 15 and 18 April, local flights were made by Il-28s

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2. Vehicular traffic at the field included:

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Truckswith drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets

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JeepJeepTank Truck

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3. No special observations were noted in the Weisse Stadt restricted area. The barriers across the Thaelmann - Breitscheid Strasse were removed. A new barrier was seen on Thaelmann Strasse blocking the road diagonally from northwest to southeast. About 10 trucks, 4 very large and 12 standard tank trucks were still parked at the corner of Breitscheid and Thaelmann Strasse.

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4. During the period from 6 to 18 April, there was air activity during daytime on 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 April. Night flying was practiced on 14 and 15 April. The following aircraft were observed at the field: about 29 Il-28s on 6 April, 35 Il-28s and 2 Li-2s on 18 April. No tactical symbols were seen on the aircraft. On various days, there was practice flying by Po-2s. One Li-2 was observed both on 15 and 18 April.

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5. No AA guns were observed at the field, but about 8 AA guns were seen in Weisse Stadt near building No 50. 4
6. On 6 and 9 April, 3 radio trucks with masts 10 to 12 meters high were parked south of the runway. Two radio trucks with 2 masts 10 to 12 meters high and braced by guy wires at 3 places were observed at the same ~~time~~ site on 18 April. A cable extended from these radio installations to a third radio truck of the same type which was parked in the extension of the runway between the large Moorgraben (ditch) and the Borgsdorf-Velten road. Two vehicles, similar to living vans, were parked near Wilhelminenhof. The vehicles were about 3 meters apart with a tarpauling extended over the space between. 5
7. At about 1830 on 14 April, 6 boxcars were seen on the spur track on the field and 2 boxcars and 4 gondola cars loaded with briquettes on the track outside of the field.
8. Vehicular traffic between 6 and 18 April included:

Bus
Sedan
Trucks

9. During the first week of April, the Il-28s from Oranienburg airfield continuously crossed over West Berlin. Between 15 and 18 April, the aircraft were again seen flying over the town center at an altitude of about 1,000 meters. While flying over the northern edge of West Berlin, the aircraft approached for landing and crossed over the western sector of Berlin at an altitude of about 400 meters. Between 2300 and 0115 during the night of 15/16 April, individual flights were made at intervals of 5 to 15 minutes. The sky was cloudless. On 16 and 17 April, no air activity was observed. Throughout the day on 18 April, individual flights were made over West Berlin at large intervals. All aircraft flew the same course which was strictly kept so that the planes were seen flying between the tips of 2 trees located close together. The aircraft presumably practiced blind flying or approach flights at a beacon. The aircraft went on landing course not nearer than 12 km south of the field.

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10. Around 9 April, air activity by Il-28s was started over Oranienburg airfield. Between 1500 and 1700 on 15 April, no aircraft were seen aloft. About 30 Il-28s were parked irregularly between the hangar and Wilhelminenhof. Some Il-28s were apparently parked in the open hangar. No aircraft were seen in the revetments. From a distance it was observed that one aircraft apparently had a brown stripe about 20 cm wide on the upper edge of the rudder assembly. An [redacted] the field on 15 April that they would only [redacted]

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soldiers

11. About 20 tank trucks each with a trailer were parked west of building No 50 in Weisse Stadt. The vehicles were new, had a silvery coat of paint, and appeared to be of a new type not seen before. The capacity was estimated at 5,000 liters. 2

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12. Three radio trucks with masts 10 to 12 meters high were parked south of the runway. No details could be observed from a distance. 5

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14. Air activity and aircraft observed between 15 and 23 April:

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15 to 20 April. There was air activity by Il-28s every day except on 17 April. Night flying was also practiced during the night of 15 April.

Li-2s daily took off and landed. During night flying activity, the southern end of the runway was marked by red lamps. Three searchlights were located about 300 meters from the southern end of the runway.

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21 April. There was no air activity. Ten Il-28s were parked in the southern section of the field. The number of aircraft parked in the northern section could not be determined because the aircraft were parked too close together.

22 April. Between 0645 and 1330, there was air activity by aircraft. Five of the aircraft took off while towing a sleeve target and disappeared from view for about 20 minutes. When returning, it was noted that the sleeve targets of 3 aircraft were torn by hits. No machine guns were seen in the rear turret of the towing aircraft. The distance of the sleeve target from the towing plane was about 4 aircraft lengths.

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23 April. Between 0810 and 1330, there was air activity by aircraft [redacted] which had been observed during air activity between 15 and 20 April. The aircraft flew in formations of three for about 20 minutes duration. They landed individually. The biplanes which were still stationed at the field occasionally made local flights. ¹

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- 15.. One or 2 radio trucks were parked at the eastern side of the runway during air activity. One radio truck had on its roof an antenna mast about 5 meters high with a three-cornered frame on top. An antenna mast was placed on the ground next to the other radio truck. This mast was about 6 meters high and had a ball on top. ⁵
16. One building in Weisse Stadt was still occupied by an artillery unit. On 20 April, the HO shop was vacated since it was to move into other rooms. The soldiers who had recently arrived were issued new uniforms. The Li-2s which daily landed in Oranienburg hauled dependents and luggage to the field. It was noted that the families had many children. The married officers with their dependents were quartered in the Weisse Stadt Settlement. These statements were partially received from the supply sergeant. ³

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1. [redacted] Comment. The occupation of Oranienburg airfield with a bomber unit equipped with about 35 Il-28s began on 31 March 1955.

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Comment.

[redacted] large tank trucks on a parking site for trucks at the corner formed by Breitscheid Strasse and Thaelmann Strasse. Some quarters in Weisse Stadt are still occupied by other than air force units.

4. [redacted] Comment. The AA guns near building No 50 which have been observed for a long period presumably belong to the Soviet Army. AA protection was not yet reported from the field.

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5. [redacted] Comment. No stationary radio installations have been observed at Oranienburg airfield so far.

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